

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 873

By Yokley

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of William Jack Holt of
Newport, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Jack Holt; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holt was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holt served with acumen and alacrity as Transportation Supervisor with BASF Corporation for thirty-seven years after retiring from American Enka; during his time with both companies, he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a Korean War veteran, he courageously served this nation in the United States Army with the 40th Infantry Division from 1950-1952; Mr. Holt earned several military medals, including the Bronze Star, and was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, upon returning to Cocke County, Mr. Holt became a diligent advocate for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, very active in veterans' organizations, Mr. Holt was a member of Newport Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2372 and served as the First District VFW Commander; he was sworn in by Memphis VFW State Commander Bob Pearson in the presence of First District Congressman Jimmy Quillen; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holt had served on all chairs for the local post, and he served on the District Level as Junior Vice Commander in which he commanded eighteen VFW posts in the district consisting of more than ten thousand members; and

WHEREAS, appointed by the VFW National Officials in Kansas as an All-American District Commander in July 1972, Mr. Holt was one of only twenty-two District Commanders in

the U.S. to receive such an honor, and, at the time, only the fourth VFW District Commander from Tennessee to be selected as a VFW All-American Commander; he was also elected All-State District Commander at that year's State Convention; and

WHEREAS, through his dedication, the State VFW membership was increased by almost two thousand five hundred members, and his endeavors gained national recognition; Mr. Holt was honored by several Presidents and Governors; and

WHEREAS, through the tireless efforts of both Mr. Holt and the Newport VFW, many area businesses lent their support to the local school system, Newport Rescue Squad, and families in distress; and

WHEREAS, gladly volunteering his time on a national level with the Veterans Affairs Center in Washington, D.C., Mr. Holt lobbied for better benefits for military retirees; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holt was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is preceded in death by his parents, William J. (Bill) and Elizabeth Proffitt Holt, and sisters, Dorothy Holt Lichlyter and Annette Holt Moore; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holt will be sorely missed by brothers and sisters-in-law, Charles and Rozelle Holt and Gary and Janie Holt; sisters and brothers-in-law, June and Cecil Samples and Margaret and Herman Shelton; brother-in-law, Paul Lichlyter; nephews, Chad Holt and wife, Stephanie, Tyler Holt, Don Samples and wife, Tammy, Steve Shelton and wife, Julie, Scott Shelton, David Lichlyter and wife, Connie, and Marty Lichlyter and wife, Mitzy; nieces, Charlene Gribble and husband, Roger, Debbie Franklin and husband, Roger, and Diana Clevenger and husband, Robert; seven great-nephews, nine great-nieces, and one great-great-niece; and

WHEREAS, Jack Holt leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of William Jack Holt, reflecting fondly upon his

impeccable character, his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, and his dedication to veterans throughout our nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Holt.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.